

THE WEATHER
Washington, Dec. 16.—Fair and continued cold today and tomorrow.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR
8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

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'IS IT A DELUSION?'
MRS. BLAKE ASKS OF
KIDNAPPING STORY

Accused Mother Gives First Hint
She Knows Child Was
Not Stolen

SAYS CHILD RAN AHEAD
AND MAY HAVE FALLEN OVER

Talks Freely to County Physician
Who Asserts Woman
Is Insane

By a Staff Correspondent
Atlantic City, Dec. 16.—"Was it a delusion, doctor?"

Mrs. Esther Miller Blake, charged with murdering her five-year-old son "Buddy" by throwing him from the Ventnor pier into the icy waters of the Atlantic last Friday evening, asked this question of Dr. L. R. Souder, Atlantic county physician, when he was questioning her.

It was the mother's first admission that the wild story of an attack by negro kidnappers, culled out to a startled woman when Mrs. Blake had summoned by ringing the doorbell of a house in Ventnor near the scene of the boy's death, was not the true version.

"Was it a delusion, doctor?" she asked.

"You meant the story of the negroes?" Doctor Souder asked quietly.

"Yes," she answered pitifully. "Was that all a delusion?"

"We shall have to dismiss that story," said the doctor, "because you know it is not true."

"Well," she said, throwing her head back wearily on the pillow. "I thought that some one grabbed me. It all seems so long ago."

Mind Is Slowly Clearing
Slowly the mother's mind is clearing. Memory of the act of which the police accuse her has not returned. She knows her boy is dead, but protests that no mother could murder her own child.

She knows that she is charged with murder. Apparently she is groping in the mental darkness of the last few days for a spark of memory that will reveal to her the true story of her boy's death.

Her first glimmering of what might have happened came last night, when she talked with Doctor Souder. She repeated and amplified the same story today in a further conversation with him and with Dr. John T. Beckwith.

She may never come to trial for her child's murder. The physicians and county officials are considering the wisdom of calling a commission in lunacy to examine the case, which might be sent to an asylum without trial, or, if the prosecutor so desires, she might be tried no matter what the verdict of such a commission.

Headaches, so severe that she carried no recollection of what took place during them, figure in the strange case. She had such a headache last Friday.

If the kidnapping story is true, she said to the physicians today, "and it is as true and vivid to me as any occurrence could be, I don't know what took place last Friday evening, when I had a headache."

"I did not kill 'Buddy.' Any mother knows that I could not have done such a thing," she repeated.

Recalls Old Delusion
But she admitted the possibility that it might be a delusion. She took a visit to a sanitarium several years ago. At that time, she said, she accused nurses of attacking her. Later the charge proved untrue, but the delusion still clung to her, she said, and she still has a vivid impression of the feelings under the attack.

She told Doctor Souder for the first time today the cause of her husband's desertion. Her frequent delusions, coupled with the fact that she had threatened his life and was highly temperamental, caused him to take their two children, "Buddy" and Esther.

She insisted that if her son was not kidnapped she had a delusion to that effect.

"Might he not have escaped you and run out on the pier at Ventnor?" Doctor Souder asked.

"He might have, but I don't remember an occurrence," she replied.

"And then he might have fallen or crawled into the ocean," the physician suggested.

"He was awfully fond of the water," she replied, "and might have done that. We always had trouble keeping him away from the water."

For Doctor Souder's benefit she repeated the cause of the attack and kidnapping by negroes. It was essentially the same one she told Friday, and she repeated that she remembered it perfectly.

May Be Paranoia Victim
Following the talk with Mrs. Blake Doctor Souder expressed the thought that she is suffering from paranoia or delusional insanity.

Dr. S. Barbash, physician in charge of her case at the hospital, said Mrs. Blake is in fair physical condition, but that she continually complains of real or imaginary ailments.

How Mercury Dropped
in Philadelphia Suburbs

Degrees
Narberth 10
Paoli 12
Bala 14
Bryn Mawr 14
Ardmore 16
Germantown 16
Jenkintown 18

CITY SHIVERS AGAIN

Mercury Drops to 16, Forming Ice on Ponds; Skating Prohibited
With the temperature down to sixteen degrees for about three hours this morning, Philadelphia is having another "coldest day" of the season.

Ice is forming on the ponds, but skating is not being permitted today because it is not thick enough for safety.

Eager skating enthusiasts were telephoned to the parks and closed this morning, seeking places at which they could enjoy the sport.

A cloudless sky and clear, though cold, air encouraged Christmas shoppers today.

DOGS GUARD WOMAN'S BODY

Mistress Found Dead in Home, Pets Snarl at Police
Miss Ida Baisley, fifty-five years old, who lived alone at 844 North Ninth street, was found dead in her kitchen last night. Two dogs stood guard over the body and snarled at the police.

Jacob Levin, a greaser, 842 North Ninth street, told the police Miss Baisley had not been seen since 5:30 a. m. last Saturday. Police believe death was due to heart disease.

Two of her neighbors knew Miss Baisley, who is believed to have a brother in this city. According to Albert Sebald, 975 North Fifth street, who had a slight acquaintance with Miss Baisley, she had a few burglars, so kept two big dogs in the house.

THREE DIE IN PISTOL FIGHT

Doctor, His Brother-in-Law and Another Killed in Family Brawl
Columbia, S. C., Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Dr. J. H. Pratt, a physician, his brother-in-law, John Bell, and Royall Cotton, a farmer, were killed in a pistol fight Sunday night at the country home of Mrs. J. T. Bell, near St. Stephens, according to reports received here today.

Doctor Pratt, after returning from church, is said to have found young Cotton at his mother-in-law's home. Pratt, it is stated, fired at Cotton, whom he had warned to stay away from the house. He then went to his room upstairs. John Bell came into the parlor, and being mistaken for Pratt by Cotton, was fired upon. He fell with a bullet in his heart. Pratt returned to the room and mortally wounded Cotton, but was himself shot four times by Cotton and died soon afterwards.

JUDGE SPEEDS UP TRIAL

Tires of Verbal Voyages of Mate in Skipper's Case
"Speed up," was the order given by Federal Judge Thompson today in the United States Attorney Kane in the prosecution of Robert Ferguson, skipper of the steamship Toykin, on charges of murdering the lives of the crew through drunkenness on a voyage from Havre, France, to this city.

Grover C. Fretwell, first mate of the Toykin, was a whole day in the witness stand, vividly recounting the swearing proclivities of the skipper while under the influence of cognac, and making things so serious to the witness stand, and he started to go over the story again today when Judge Thompson, tiring of the verbal voyages, ordered more steam up.

PROBE OF MARTENS ASKED

Kenyon Requests Senate to Investigate Soviet Envoy
Washington, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Investigation of the activities and status of Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, self-styled "Russian soviet ambassador," with headquarters in New York, was proposed in a resolution introduced today by Senator Kenyon, Republican of Iowa.

It was referred to the foreign relations committee, which would make the inquiry.

CHILD DIES OF BURNS

Elizabeth Martz, four years old, 923 North Front street, Camden, died early today in Cooper Hospital as the result of burns received when her dress caught fire from the kitchen range, near which she played. The child's mother finally beat out the flames.

GIRL, 16, WHO KILLED FATHER CALM AS TRIAL APPROACHES

Clara Bartel Attends to Household Duties While Throngs Crowd Doylestown Courthouse—Case May Open Tomorrow

From a Staff Correspondent
Doylestown, Pa., Dec. 16.—Waiting for the call to court, sixteen-year-old Clara Bartel, charged with the murder of her father last summer, busies herself with little household duties at the home of Mrs. C. R. Nightingale, probation officer.

In dark skirt and fresh middie blouse, with leather belt, Clara herself answered the doorbell today, but was not allowed to talk with visitors.

She has found a staunch friend in Mrs. Nightingale, who has asked her to visit her home rather than go to a hotel or detention house while she awaits trial.

"The child is so sweet and simple, it is too bad for her to have to be put among strangers who would question her character," said the probation officer.

Not Allowed to See Strangers
"Because of orders of the court we have not allowed her to talk with any one. We went for a walk Sunday afternoon, but that is the only time Clara has been out since she came here nearly a week ago. I like to have her with me."

For the most part Clara has remained calm and self-possessed, according to Mrs. Nightingale, only now and then expressing a youthful wonder concerning her act of last summer.

Her trial was to have begun today.

GIRL SWEARS SHE SA FATHER KILL CONSTABLE IN ROW

18-Year-Old Married Woman Gives Damaging Testimony Against Parent in Court

ASKED 'DO YOU LOVE HIM?' 'I DON'T HATE HIM,' REPLY

Crowd in Doylestown Courtroom Hears Tragic Tale of Fight. Jealousy Is Suspected

Doylestown, Pa., Dec. 16.—If Harry H. Adams, of Quakertown, the murderer of electric chair for the goer of Constable John P. Wetzel, it will be largely on the testimony of his own daughter.

Mrs. J. Arthur Jones, eighteen years old, who has been married two years, took the witness stand in Adams' trial today and described the fight in the barn on the Adams place in which Wetzel was killed and the man now on trial for his life so severely wounded that he lay for four days at the point of death in the Bethlehem Hospital.

The daughter told of having seen the two men fight. She swore that she had seen her father fire and his antagonist fall. She told how her father, severely wounded, had struck his enemy over the head and face with a hammer.

Doesn't "Hate" Her Father
"Do you not love your father?" asked Major George Ross, who is defending Adams.

"Well, I can't say that I hate him," the girl answered.

A large crowd heard the girl's dramatic recital, drawn from her by Hiram H. Herter, the district attorney. It was the first dramatic moment in a trial.

The commonwealth opened its case against Adams yesterday. The shooting of Wetzel occurred June 15, Adams had been living apart from his wife for some years. According to the story filed immediately after the shooting he had tried to remove a bug from the Adams place, where his wife lived.

Wetzel, the constable, whose home was near by, interfered. The fight followed, it is alleged. Wetzel went down with bullets in his head, left arm and leg. Adams was wounded in the fight, but tried to get away, but was caught.

Another development today was the introduction of a possible motive of jealousy. Charles M. Forks, an attorney, testified that Adams after the shooting, testified today that among other things Adams said when he was arrested: "Well, I see him 'bout got him. She won't see him 'bout got him."

Sorry He "Didn't Get Her"
"I'm sorry I didn't get her at the same time," Rhoads testified, Adams said.

Neighbors testified also at today's session of Court. Sharp contradictions in testimony developed today promised a long fight during the future days of the trial. Charles Jacoby, a witness for the commonwealth, testified he had seen the shooting from a window of the home of Mrs. Annie M. Forks, and that Adams had shot first and not in self defense, as his attorneys claim.

Mrs. Forks followed him immediately on the stand, and swore that the window was closed and that she had seen the shooting in so obstructed that it would have been impossible for him to have seen it. Mrs. Forks was sworn-examined for an hour by Major Ross.

WOMAN DIES IN 100TH YEAR

Mrs. Catherine De Armon Born in New York June 10, 1820
Mrs. Catherine De Armon, who was in her 100th year, died today at her home, 1523 Locust street, where she had lived more than forty years.

Mrs. De Armon was born in Seneca county, New York, June 10, 1820, and came to this city in 1878. She had a remarkable memory and easily recalled many incidents in the past life which she had witnessed or heard discussed.

She is survived by two daughters, Dr. Edna W. Brooke and Mrs. Georgianna Cooke. Doctor Brooke and Mrs. Cooke live at the Locust street address.

SAVES WOMAN AND BABIES

Passerby Carries Them From Smoke-Filled Home as Stable Burns
A woman and her two children, one an infant, escaped death from suffocation early today when they were carried from their smoke-filled home by Thomas Hayes, 2812 North Fifth street, who heard the mother's cries.

The woman, Mrs. Hugh O'Neil, who lives next to a stable at 2516 North Hope street, which burned today with two horses. Damage was \$2500.

The woman was rescued by David Marion and Lewis Jordan. Gordon was repairing his automobile in the stable when it caught fire. The flames spread to some hay. The children are Edna, two months, and Agnes, fifteen months old.

MOORE TO SEE CORTELYOU

Mayor-elect's List of Afternoon Callers Includes "Others"
Mayor-elect Moore will talk this afternoon with James T. Cortelyou, who has been persistently mentioned for director of public safety.

"I am not making any announcement, however," Mr. Moore added, emphasizing that his mind was not made up. He added that he would see "Mr. Cortelyou and others."

The Mayor-elect expressed a desire to get into the councilmanic situation as early as possible. It is believed he will confer in a few days with the members-elect of the new Council, with a view to co-operation.

Mr. Moore said he had an open mind regarding the presidency of Council.

Among his callers today were William L. Nicholson, president of the Land Title and Trust Co.; Henry Starr Richardson, county commissioner, and David J. Smyth.

Shivery Weather

COURT POSTPONES MINERS' CONTEMPT CASES, EXCEPT ONE

Refuses Indefinite Continuance, However, as Renewal of Walkout Is Possible

HOWAT MUST ANSWER FOR 'NO BEER, NO WORK' STRIKE

Grand Jury at Indianapolis Will Proceed With Conspiracy Investigation

By the Associated Press
Indianapolis, Dec. 16.—Charges of contempt of court against eighty-four officials of the United Mine Workers of America, with one exception, were continued today by United States District Judge Anderson until such a date as it is deemed advisable to bring the cases again before the court.

The exception is the charge against Alexander Howat, president of the Kansas district of the mine workers, who is charged with continued violation of the court's injunction against furtherance of the strike.

Attorneys for Howat, who is under \$10,000 bond, were instructed to have him appear in court Monday morning, December 22. Government attorneys charge that, since the agreement reached by the miners last week to end the strike on the basis suggested by President Wilson, Howat has been instrumental in ending the strike in the Kansas district, which affected men called out on October 31, but has succeeded in keeping out men who were on a local strike prior to the general strike.

WANT LEAGUE OR ALLIANCE

The actual position of the European powers is probably this: They want above all other things American participation in world affairs jointly with themselves. They do not greatly care whether this participation comes in the form of a league of nations or in the form of an alliance.

If President Wilson should wish then America would enter into world affairs through the league. If he were beaten

KEEPING HARD TO DO WITHOUT AN OVERCOAT IS A DIFFICULT TASK, EVEN ON A BOILER-ROOM GRATING IN THE PAVEMENT

Judge Anderson said he was unwilling to continue the cases indefinitely and indicated that they probably would be called up again within an hour. It was a report as to whether the miners were continuing in their obedience of the injunction.

Judge Anderson asked for an explanation of a statement by government attorneys that a "beer" strike was in force in Kansas.

"No Beer, No Work" Strike
In this case, it was stated, members of some of the Kansas locals took the position of "no beer, no work." It was not considered strikes by the internal, but merely "stampedes."

A part of the miners in the report of the strike of coal miners in sympathy with the Kansas miners.

In asking that the status of the charges be such that they may be brought up again within an hour, the report of a strike of coal miners in sympathy with the Kansas miners.

Investigation of charges of violation of the injunction and anti-trust acts by both operators and miners is scheduled to begin here tomorrow with the empanelling of a federal grand jury. This grand jury is estimated to open today, will be nation-wide and will not be confined to miners and operators if it is found that any other persons have conspired to limit production of coal.

SUGAR BILL TO BE REPORTED

Appointment of the commission to investigate wages and prices in the coal mining industry will not be made before Thursday, it was said today at the White House. Attorney General Palmer is in conference, and the commission will not be named until after his return to Washington.

Production in the bituminous fields of Pennsylvania approached normal, with 90 to 95 per cent of the men at work or ready to return. Production is rapidly increasing today, the conference adopted today the conferring of living coal at a high cost and is expected to reach normal today.

Virtually all restrictions on the use of fuel were relaxed today.

POLICEMAN KILLS BANDIT

Interrupts Hold-Up in Which Victim Is Probably Mortally Wounded
Cleveland, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Patrolman Tanager shot and killed a bandit, said to be Arthur Cameron, early today while Cameron and a companion were holding up John Vanikas, a restaurant keeper.

In the exchange of shots Vanikas was shot through the neck and probably fatally wounded by one of the bandits. The second robber was captured.

BELGIUM NOT A NEUTRAL

Will Refuse to Return to Pre-War Status, Says Brussels Paper
Brussels, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—The Belgian Government will refuse absolutely to return to its state of neutrality, according to the Independence Belge.

Declarations soon to be made by Premier Delacroix on the subject will specify the government's viewpoint, the newspaper adds.

TWO AUTOS STOLEN

Two automobile robberies were reported to the police today. A car belonging to E. Heilmann, 2907 Ellsworth street, valued at \$700, and one belonging to Thomas Griffin, 2501 North Twelfth street, valued at \$650, were stolen yesterday.

Europe Waits While U. S. Wrangles Over Politics

Powers Wary About Antagonizing Republicans or Democrats by Taking Sides. Expect League or Alliance

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
Staff Correspondent of the Evening Public Ledger

Washington, Dec. 16.—The "hands off" attitude adopted by the English, French and Italian premiers in London means that the European world is going to stand by and wait until President Wilson and the United States Senate settle their political dispute. It is the only safe policy for them to take if they wish to have America participate with them in the world affairs of the political field.

The situation here is full of dynamite. Had the European powers indicated a willingness to accept reservations on the basis of reservations they would have irritated the President.

Had they intimated an unwillingness to accept reservations, Republicans in the Senate would have charged that they were interfering in American affairs. The one thing necessary to kill the treaty is for the European powers to show their hands on one side or the other in the political field.

Lloyd George and Clemenceau played the game cleverly. They have two strings to their bow, a league of nations and an alliance. Moreover, the European powers are used to waiting upon the decision of the United States. The logic of events from the outset forced us into the war on the side of England and France, but it took us three years to make up our minds to enter it, and the logic of events now the less force us into participation in world affairs.

As Lord Robert Cecil once put it, the United States can no more refuse its obligations than could England refuse hers after the Napoleonic wars. This means that a nation gets so big it cannot keep out of world affairs.

While the European powers wait, a combination of the victors exists, with

KEEPING HARD TO DO WITHOUT AN OVERCOAT IS A DIFFICULT TASK, EVEN ON A BOILER-ROOM GRATING IN THE PAVEMENT

Continued on Page Two, Column Five

Supreme Court Asked to Dry Amendment

New Jersey Liquor Dealers Request Permission to Test Its Validity

WOULD HAVE INJUNCTIONS AGAINST NATION AND STATE

House Committee Opposes War-Time Bill's Repeal—Wets May Sue U. S.

Whisky Seized by W. Va. Stolen From Capitol

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Seven hundred pints of whisky were stolen last night from the West Virginia Capitol here.

The whisky had been confiscated by the state prohibition department, and was stored in lockers in the state house until legal disposition could be made of it.

By the Associated Press
Washington, Dec. 16.—Permission to institute original proceedings to have the national prohibition amendment declared unconstitutional and New Jersey and federal authorities enjoined from enforcing it, was asked of the Supreme Court today by a brief of Liquor Dealers' Association of New Jersey.

This was the first question as to the validity of the constitutional amendment to reach the Supreme Court.

W. Tucker, of New York, presented the motion, together with a printed brief prepared by the association, and the court was announced whether the association would institute the suit will be granted.

In addition to enjoining enforcement of the eighteenth amendment the association asked the court to issue injunctions against enforcement of the Volstead prohibition act.

Defendants named in the proceedings were the state of New Jersey, which refused to ratify the constitutional amendment; Attorney General Palmer, Joseph I. Bodine, United States attorney for New Jersey, and Commissioner of Internal Revenue Daniel C. Wilson.

The association's brief alleged that the constitutional amendment was an interference with the state police powers, a violation of the Fourteenth amendment, which prohibits the taking of private property without just compensation, that neither Congress nor the states are authorized to attempt to propose or ratify the amendment, and that the amendment when passed by the House did not receive the support of two-thirds of the members present.

An unfavorable report on the bill to repeal the war-time prohibition law was ordered today by the House agriculture committee by a vote of 16 to 3. Representatives John T. Rainey, Democrat of Illinois, and Volney Davis of Wisconsin, and Warren of New York, Republicans, cast the negative votes.

The only argument for the repeal was made by Representative Rainey, who urged a wet era until January 10, when the war-time prohibition amendment becomes effective, so that people of small means might lay in a stock for medicinal uses, and the government might get \$500,000,000 in revenue taxes.

"Since the Supreme Court has decided the war-time act is unconstitutional, we must submit to the inevitable," said Mr. Rainey, "but men of wealth have laid in stocks to run them for years, and those of less means should have some opportunity."

New York, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Lawyers representing large liquor interests in New York, intimating that a civil suit would be filed in the United States Government might be the next step in the fight against prohibition. Compensation for losses estimated at \$500,000,000 was sought on January 1, according to the lawyers said the Supreme Court decision virtually confiscated liquor today are deeply troubled.

The lawyers said the Supreme Court decision virtually confiscated liquor today are deeply troubled.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Four thousand of Chicago's 5000 saloons will close their doors or go into other business, on January 1, according to an estimate today by M. J. McCarthy, secretary of the Illinois Liquor Dealers' Protective Association. "We really expect to see the saloons open up after the Supreme Court action," he said, "and the decision upholding wartime prohibition took the pep out of the owners."

McCarthy said the closing January 1 would throw 12,000 men out of employment.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Watching one of their last remaining hopes for a brief "wet" spell go fluttering away by the decision of the Federal Supreme Court, Kentucky distillers and former saloon proprietors today are deeply troubled.

Elwood Hamilton, collector of internal revenue for Kentucky, and District Attorney W. V. Gregory announced that present-day violators of the war-time act may be undertaken shortly. These persons, selling liquor under protection of injunctions, stopped their sales yesterday immediately after the Supreme Court dissolved their injunctions.

St. Louis, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Motions to dissolve the temporary injunctions issued against the district attorney and the collector of internal revenue here on December 5, restraining them from interfering with the sale of whisky, were granted by United States Judge Fair in court here today.

TO FIX PARIS LOAN DETAILS

France and Britain Will Arrange Proposed Issue in England

Paris, Dec. 16.—(By A. P.)—Details of the French loan to be issued in England were announced in London yesterday, have not yet been decided upon, but will be fixed by agreement between the French and British governments.

Sum of the liquor firms and saloon men think of presenting claims to the Court of Claims, in Washington.

PRISONERS THEN FLED HOTELS "OUT" BIG INCOME

Philadelphia's hotel proprietors, liquor firms and saloonkeepers, face losses amounting to millions, it was said today, because of the Supreme Court decision upholding the wartime prohibition law.

In the bonded warehouses in the Philadelphia district there are 1,400,000 gallons of whisky, representing about \$10,000,000. Liquor firms here also have whisky in bonded warehouses in Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky and other states.

It was intimated today at the Federal Building that today in bonded warehouses would be put through a "reclaiming" process so that the pure alcohol could be used in manufacturing plants and for other purposes.

When asked about the report that Philadelphia banks have lent money to liquor dealers on United States bonded warehouse receipts, Newton W. Conroy, cashier of the Corn Exchange National Bank, said:

"There is a lot of talk going around that the banks have lent large sums on warehouse receipts, but I do not know of any such loans. The Corn Exchange Bank has made no such loans. If there are loans on warehouse receipts I do not think the total amount is large."

Robert M. Drayton, of Goddard, Groome & Drayton, said:

"The sweeping away of the property of the local doctors are sworn to protect us from the loss even of the organization they fight to the government in taxes."

"The fight will now be centered upon the constitutional amendment. It will be attacked as an invasion of personal liberty."

Some hotels here will lose heavily. It was estimated that three or four hotels have lost the prospect of resuming a business which meant an aggregate of from \$50,000 to \$70,000 a month to them and will have heavy stocks of liquors in their cellars which they cannot dispose of.

James H. Pearson, president of the Retail Liquor Dealers' Association, said the executive committee of the organization would meet this afternoon to consider what can be done.

"The trouble with the country is that we have sent a lot of schoolboys to Washington," commented Mr. Pearson. "They are